

We claim:

1. A method for controlling or regulating a generator, said generator (10) comprising three stator windings (U, V, W), respective generator terminals (K1.U, K1.V, K1.W) connected with the stator windings respectively, a converter bridge (11) including controllable switch elements (15 to 20) and means for controlling said switch elements; said method comprising controlling the switch elements (15 to 20) of the converter bridge (11) so that the stator windings (U, V, W) are temporarily connected for a predetermined time interval with a charge source (21) that supplies a charging current to the stator windings (U, V, W) in addition to induced current present in the stator windings (U, V, W), said charging current charging an inductance of said generator (10) with magnetic energy, wherein said charge source (21) is a battery or a capacitor.
2. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said charging current comprises a plurality of current pulses and times of feeding said current pulses into said stator windings (U, V, W) are selected so that an applied phase current is a predetermined minimum size.
3. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said means for controlling said switch elements (15 to 20) comprises a logistics element (27) for setting a turn-on time and a longest on-time duration of at least one of said switch elements.

4. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said means for controlling said switch elements (15 to 20) comprises a comparator (25) that produces a comparison output according to a comparing of an actual current value with a predetermined maximum value.

5. The method as defined in claim 4, wherein the actual current value is measured by measuring current passing through one of the switch elements (15 to 20) by means of a measuring instrument (24).

6. The method as defined in claim 4, wherein the actual current value is measured by measuring current flowing through at least one of the stator windings (U, V, W) by means of a measuring instrument (24).

7. The method as defined in claim 4, wherein the actual current value is measured by measuring generator output current by means of a measuring instrument (24).

8. The method as defined in claim 4, wherein the actual current value is measured by measuring a combination of generator output current and current flowing through at least one of the stator windings (U, V, W) by means of a measuring instrument (24).

9. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the generator (10) is provided with an exciter winding (14) and a voltage regulator (VR), said induced current in said stator windings (U, V, W) is produced by passing an excitation current through said exciter winding (14) and said voltage regulator provides additional control of said currents so that a generator output voltage adjusts itself to predetermined values.